THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): Names of towns/Cities in Maharashtra which are likely to be connected on STD network are given below. Bombay is already on STD network.

Alibagh, Dhule, Gadchiroli; Jalna; Kudal, Latur, Nanded and Osmanabad.

Survey for Oil Exploration by USSR

1949. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 596 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Soviet assistance has been sought to carry out survey of oil deposits in the area of Cambay basin and Himalayan region and whether a Russian Professor Aleaounder Yamshim, an expert in Geophysical Sciences has given any opinion in this regard; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the assistance and the details of the opinion given by Prof. Yamshim in this regard and what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) Soviet assistance has been obtained under bilateral arrangements for exploration of hydrocarbons in the on-shore areas, including Himalayan region and Cambay Basin, of the country.

The Russian Prof. A. L. Yamshin had carried out a detailed study on the geo-tectonics of Eurasia. The megastructures depicted by him in his tectonic map has an indirect bearing on hydrocarbon prospect analysis of Himalayan region and Cambay Basin.

The Soviet side has rendered technical assistance in the analysis of available geological and geo-physical data of Himalayan foot-hill belt and drilling of Cheri Well No. 1 in Himachal Pradesh.

In the Cambay Basin, an intensive integrated exploration project has been undertaken with Soviet assistance as per work programme given below:—

Seismic Survey (GLK)	3100
No. of Wells	26
Total meterage	54000

Consumption of Petrol

1950. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of consumption of petrol has been on the increase for the past five years despite Government's policy to reduce it;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the expected quantity of annual import for petroleum products for the coming five years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Although measures for conservation in the use of petroleum products, including petrol continue to be undertaken, the rate of growth in demand for motor spirit has had a generally increasing trend in the last five years.

(b) The main reason for increase in consumption of petrol has been the gradual increase in the population of petrol driven vehicles in the country.

(c) The import requirements of petroleum products is assessed every

year through preparation of Oil Economy Budget, after taking into consideration production and demand in the country. It is, therefore, not possible at this stage to indicate the import requirement of petroleum products for the coming five years.

ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण के लक्ष्य

1951. **श्री शान्ति त्यागी :** क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चालू पचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान कितने गांवों के विद्युतीकरण का लक्ष्य रखा गया था और वर्ष 1987 के अन्त तक कितने प्रतिशत लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति की गई ; और

(ख) ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण के लिये योजना में कितनी धनराशि स्वीकृत थी और वर्ष, 1987 के अन्त तक कितनी प्रतिशत धनराशि खर्च की गई ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में विद्युत विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी) : (क) सातवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान कुल मिलाकर 1.18 लाख गांवों का विद्युतीकरण करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है। 1987 के अन्त तक लगभग 45.06 प्रतिशत की प्राप्ति कर ली गई है।

(ख) सातवीं चवर्षीय योजना के दौरान देश में ग्राम विद्युतीकरण कार्यक्रम के लिए, 2108 करोड़ रुपए के योजना परिव्यय का प्रावधान किया गया है। सातवी योजना के लिए आवंटित कुल राशि में से योजना के पहले दो वर्षों के दौरान लगभग 39.7 प्रतिशत (अनन्तिम) राशि खर्च की जा चुकी है। चालू वित्त वर्ष 1987–88 के दौरान लगभग 435 करोड़ रुपए व्यय किए जाने की राज्य बिजली बोर्डों/बिजली विभागों द्वारा प्रत्याशा की गई है।

Loss suffered by Oil India due to Oil Blockade in Assam

1952. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a three day oil blockade was launched by the All Assam Students Union in Assam recently;

(b) if so, what is the estimated loss suffered by the Oil India Limited as a result of an uneasy situation which prevailed in all the 6 pumping stations of Oil India Crude Oil pipeline following the oil blockade; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to avoid recurrence of such blockade?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) A sixty hour oil blockade was organised by the All Assam Students Union (AASU) from 5.00 A.M. on 27th February, 1988 to 5.00 P.M. on the 29th February, 1988 resulting in suspension of crude oil transportation to all the refineries in the eastern region. However, due to availability of sufficient storage space, oil field activities of Oil India Limited, including crude oil production, continued normally during the period of blockade.

(c) Law and order being a State subject, Government of India has from time to time been requesting the Government of Assam to dissuade AASU from resorting to agitations.

Short supply of LPG in Orissa

1953. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the LPG consumers in Orissa are adversely affected by the chronic short supply of the refills and mis-management of dealers and are demanding better supply thereof; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to increase the LPG supply to the State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) A backlog in supply of LPG Refills has developed in recent months